ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Disclosed is a process for preparing a polymer of the formula

$$(R')_{\alpha}$$
 $(R')_{\alpha}$

or

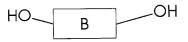
wherein x is an integer of 0 or 1, A is one of several specified groups, such as

B is one of several specified groups, such as

or mixtures thereof, and n is an integer representing the number of repeating monomer units, said process comprising (A) providing a reaction mixture which comprises (i) a solvent, (ii) a compound of the formula

or

(iii) a compound of the formula



(iv) a compound of the formula

wherein a is an integer of from 1 to 5, R' is a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an aryl group, an arylalkyl group, an alkylaryl group, an alkylaryl group, an alkylaryloxy group, an alkylaryloxy group, a polyalkyleneoxy group, or a mixture thereof, and (v) a carbonate base; and (B) heating the reaction mixture and removing generated water from the reaction mixture, thereby effecting a polymerization reaction.